WASHINGTON

Virginia Once More in the Family of States.

Fierce Debate in the House Over the Virginia Bill.

BUTLER'S ARROGANCE REBUKED.

Still Another Diplomatic Sensation.

MILITARY RULE IN GEORGIA.

Senator Sherman's Bill for Inflating the Currency.

FREE BANKING ON A COIN BASIS. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1870. The Virginia Bill in the House-Bingham Bingham Out of the Party-Fearful Onslaught Upon Butler by General Farnsworth. The debate in the flouse to-day on the Senate mendments to the Virginia bill lasted for an hour and was sharp and spicy. General Farnsworth sucseeded in getting the bill from the Speaker's table by a suspension of the rules, and he immediately ed concurrence in the Senate amendments There was an hour for debate, and Farnsworth holdng the floor yielded first to Bingham, who ansounced that he would vote for the bill, though he protested that the amendments which the Senate l put on it were unconstitutional and not worth the paper they were written on. Sam Cox, who sits behind Bingham, got up and protested against Bingham deserting them (the democrats) after they had followed his lead in passing the original Butler stood directly in front of Bingham, listening attentively to his speech. When the latter alluded to his party Butler, with great earnestness, said, "Let me ask the gentleman to which party does he refer?" This was the signal for locking When he reached his seat Bingham had finished but Sam Cox put his hand on his shoulde adgment and passed the Virginia bill while Butle

horns, and Bingham turned upon his rival with great bitterness, the members crowding around both belligerents as if they expected a personal While Bingham was pouring out the vials of his wrath upon Butler the latter suddenly beat a precipitate retreat towards his seat, turning and crying "Cheek ! cheek !" as he went. and Farnsworth farmed out twenty minutes of his time to Butler. Everybody expected something was coming. Butler turned up the sleeves of his coat and puffed out his pugnacious mouth, just as he did when he proposed "to kick the Senate out" of the hall of the House of Repre entatives. That favorite attitude of Butler on great occasions always means business. Bingham looked perceptibly smaller as he sat in his Butler was preparing to "mash him." The bitterest thing he can say of Bingham is to refer to him as "the man who hung Mrs. Surratt," and moved uneasily in his seat, as if his first thought was across the hall and attack Butler; he quieted down. Then came the reading of Bingham out of the radical party, which Butler has threatened ever since that "black was away practising law in Massachusetts. Butler after Farnsworth, Logan and the other republicans who helped Bingham pass the bill. No party could with such men in it, and no party ought to succeed, he said, bringing his fist down with great mphasis upon his desk. He called upon the recuants to atone for their offence by voting fo the Senate amendments. Butler has not been excited since the impeachment of Andrew Johnson. His face glowed with rage and be whipped in the republicans who had strayed master. There were one or two attempts at rebellion, however, and the master found he would have to take as well as give reproof. When Butler's twenty minutes had expired Farnsworth resumed the floor, and in about fifteen minutes excoriated Butler, to the infinite delight of Bingham and other offending children on the republican side of the House. He gave Butler to understand that he was not the proper man to lecture a republican of twenty-five years' standing, like himself. Farns worth had been a republican when Rutler was engaged in hunting fugitive slaves all over Massachusetts. This announcement created a constition, and Butler stood in his place perfectly thunder was at the Chicago Convention, he said, trying to nominate Lincoln, when Butler was a member of the Charleston Convention, voting for Jeff Davis. Here the democrats, who like to see Butler's old record overnauled, burst into applause and laughter. But Parnsworth was not through with the gentleman from Massachusetts. He spoke of his voting for Breckinridge at the Baltimore Convention, and then referred sarcastically to his sudden conversion to the republican party. The conversion of St. Paul, he said, was nothing in point of suddenness to the conversion of Butler. For fear that the country would not believe that the conversion was genuine he had followed the example of another scripture character, who denied his master, and who thought it necessasy to curse and swear in order to make people believe he was in earnest. was getting hot for Butler, and at every hit made by Farnsworth the democrats would burst out in uncontrollable laughter. Butler, nowever, held hi peace. He had either nothing to say or he was too demoralized to say it. Bingham was amply avenged. He could not have replied so handsomely or so crushingly to Butler had he been on the floor instead of Farnsworth. The vote on concurring in the Senate amendments was strictly a party vote. all the republicans voting for it and all the demo crats voting against it.

The Threatened Flare-up Between Stewart and Summer Postponed.
Stewart had all the books and documents on his able to-day prepared to prove that Sumner liedunder a mistake-the other day, when he claimed to be the author of the negro suffrage section. Stewart had them piled up on his desk before him, and watched for a chance to have his explanation with an eagerness that was quite amusing. Sumper, on the other hand; having been apprised through the columns of the Herald of the bostile intent of Stewart, had resolved to prevent the Nevada Senator from saying a word on the subject, if possible, and, calculating that he might not succeed in such efforts, had fortified himself with several books and documents ready to refute whatever Stewart might allege. It was amusing to notice how Sumner watched Stewart, and how the friends of each were caucusing in little knots over the matter When Stewart finally got the floor and asked to and objected, unless he could get full time to reply, Sumner, with a confident air, told Stewart he had ail the documents with him and would sustain his former claims. The result was that Stewart failed to have his say, and the expected flare-up between him and Sumner remains postponed.

The Late Assault in the Treasury Depart-

ment.
The article in your Washington correspondence the Treasury occasions a good deal of excite here. Mr. Muffett's friends expiain the affair in a different way. It seems Mr. Mullett had an "on-

pleasantness" with Rice, the superintendent of the Treasury, and it is alleged that the latter has instructed his deorkeepers to annoy Mullett in various ways. Mullett was frequently stopped before by this same doorkeeper, to whom he was well known as architect of the Treasury. Mullett frequently explained who he was and on the day in question, when stopped by the doorkeeper, lost patience at the alleged impudence and insulting manner of the

Executive Nominations. The following nominations were sent to the Sen ate to-day-

ate to-day.—

John C. Stearns to be Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Second district of Vermont; Philip K. Gleed to be Assessor of the Third district of vermont; William S. Southworth to be Assessor for the First district of Vermont; Rollin J. Jones to be Collector of Internal Revenue for the First district of Vermont; Jeremiah D. Hyde to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Visalia, Cal.; Edward W. Willett to be Register of the Land Omce at Visalia, Cal.; John N. Gatt to be Receiver at Booneville, Mo.; Harvey Carpenter to be Postmaster at Hamilton, Nevada.

Nominations Confirmed.

The Senate this afternoon confirmed the following appointments:—

tmasters—Henry G. Wells, Moline, Ill.; James W. Glover, d. N. Y.; James D. Wood, Central City, Col.; Peter D. Ganton, Ohlo; Thomas B. Johnson, Sumter, S. C.; Elizabeth B. Cuthbertson. New Brighton, Pa.; W. H. ermilk, Cumberland, Md.; S. C. West, Milwaukee, Wis., Minnan Willames, Rome, N. Y.; James G. Tracy, Housersas, Horace Chapin. Jacksouville, Ill.; Henry M. Kim-Carlioville, Ill.; William K. Libbison, Northfield, Minn. Anderson, Georgetown, S. C.; J. M. Edmunds, Washin, D. C.; B. P. Marsh, West Winsted, Coun.; Lindley M. Thornton, Ind.; J. J. Gibson, Corinth, Miss.; Emma J. Juliu, Salem, Ill.

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Accessors of Internal Recruis—William T. Fernold. Fifth district of Virginia; James J. Hayden, District of Washington Territory; George P. Knowiton, First district of Manne; James H. Loomis, Twenty-ninth district of New York; David F. Whittie, Second district of New Hampshire; James M. Dickinson, Sixth district of Teamessee.

Dickinson, Sixth district of Teamessee.

Remains Agents—John T. Rarstow, at Rutland, Vt.; Stephen Fronces, S. Johnsburg, Yt.; Seef M. Barber, Cleveland, Ohio; Samuel McKee, Louisville, Ky.; Alexander Clapperton, Fort Gilson, Oberoice nation.

Gibson, Cherokee nation.

Gibson, Cherokee nation.

Stanton, of Illinois, at Bristol. The Senate also confirmed the following nomina

The Sonate also confirmed the lonowing holinannations:—

John P. Knowles, Judge of the United States District Court
for Rhode Island; Milton Kelley, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Idaho; Henjamin J. Spooner, Marchal for
Indiana; Sebastian S. Marbie, Marshal for Maine; David H.
Starbuck, Attorney for North Carolina; Henry B. Swope, Attorney for the Western district of Pennsylvania; Ruthan
Webb, Attorney for Maine; Albert H. Horney, Attorney for
Kansas; David W. Houston, Marshal for Kansas; George F.
Foster, Marshal for Vermont; Lucien B. Esdon, Marshal for
the Western district of Tenuessee; Gabriel C. Wharton,
Attorney for Kontucky; George F. Terry, Register
of the Land Office at Austin, Newada; F. D. Todd,
Register of the Land Office at Carson City, Newada;
Thomas C. McClure, Receiver of Public Moneys for the district of lands subject to sale at St. Gloud, Minn.; Matthew
Keller, Receiver of Public Moneys at Los Angeles, Cal.,
Henry C. Austin, Register of the Land Office at the same
place; Mabin Stubbs, Agent for the Indians of the Kansas
segency; Richard T. May, Receiver of Public Moneys at
Helcus, Montana; Edward Fainter, Agent for the Indians of
the Omnha agency; L. J. Curtis, Secretary for Idaho Territory; John Meanshaw. Supervising Inspector of Steamboats
for the Pith'd district, Jacob F. Kingwait, Melter and Reiner
at the Branch Mint, Carson Chy; Commodore John
Rodgers to be Rear Admiral on the active list;
Lieutenant Commander Scifridge to be Commander;
John A. King, Assistant Paymester in the Navy; George H. Woods,
Surgoon in the Navy; Frederick P. Ela and Olway C. Berryman, Second Lieutenants in the Marine Corps; Lieutenant
David C. Swain, Judge Advocate, with rank of major; Ebeliezer Gay, reinstated as Captalu of Infantry.

Reports of the National Banks.

Reports of the National Banks. passed a resolution calling for the information re 1860, entitled "An act regulating the reports of na-tional banking associations." The Secretary of the Treasury furnished, in reply, a statement of the Comptroller of the Currency, in which the latter

Says:—

Of the 1,690 banks included in the statement one bank was suspended by entire reorganization, bearing the same name; three banks never completed their organization: sixty-two banks have gone into involuntary liquidation, and, in the hands of receivers, are doing no business and earning no dividends, 132 banks in active operation, from various causes, have declared no dividends since March 3, 1869, leaving 1,492 banks that have declared and reported dividends. Six banks, organized since the passage of the act, are not included in the statement, none of which have yet reported dividends. The average capital of dividend paying banks is \$403,023,510. The dividends declared the amount to be \$2,032,768. The average percentage of discounts upon capital is five and sixteen-hundreths; average percentage of net profits, embracing dividends and net earnings in excess of dividends, six and thirty-eight, hundredths.

The abstract furnished relates to first dividends. Five nundred and sixty-five banks have declared. and at the commencement of the work of pro paring the tables submitted have reported a second dividend. The aggregate capital of the banks so reported is \$176,872,192. The dividends declared by them amount to \$8,992,051. The net earnings in excess of the dividends declared amount to \$2,958,616. The average rate of discounts is five and eight-hundredths. The average net profit, embracing dividends and net earnings in excess of dividends, is six and seventy-five hundredths. The information submitted is believed to be substantially correct. Some difficulty was experienced at first in making the banks understand just what was meant by "net earnings in excess of dividends." The net earnings, in excess of dividends, included all sums carried to the surpus fund, and, taken together with the dividends reported, are designed to show, and undoubtedly do show with perfect accuracy, the entire net proceeds of the national banks as contemplated by the act of March 3, 1889.

Letter from Collector Grinnell to Secretary Boutwell Concerning the Collection of Har-

The following is Collector Grinnell's letter to Secre tary Boutwell in answer to the claim of Commissioner Sargent that the collectors of ports have no power to collect harbor fees accruing to States or

cities:—
Custom House, New York Collector's Office, August 17, 1869.

Sir.—I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a communication from the honorable the Commissioner of Customs, on the subject of the collection at this office of fees accruing to the State of New York on the entry of vessels in this district. As this practice has existed from time himmemorial, and as it is founded upon the requirements of the stantes of the Ones York of the Collection of the et of March 2, 1799, and as the Treasury Department has always been aware of it, and as many reasons and explanations are on file in the correspondent. partment has siways been aware of it, and as many reasons and explanations are on file in the correspondence of the department why the practice should be continued, particularly in the letters of my predecessors of date of December 7, 1855, and December 10, 1868, it is respectfully submitted, whicher the closing paragraph of the honorable commissioner's letter has been well considered, and is not unnecessarily peremptory. I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

To Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, Secretary of the Treasury.

Relief of the Poor of the District. Mr. Hamiln's bill for the relief of the poor of the District of Columbia, reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia to-day, appropriate \$30,000, and authorizes the distribution of condemned ciothing and other articles not suited for army burposes, not exceeding \$2,000 in value.

Pension for Mrs. Lincoln. Mr. Wilson's resolution in relation to Mrs. Lincoin grants a pension of \$2,000 per annum from the time

internal Revenue Laws Extended Over the Indian Territory.
Upon the recommendation of General John A

McDonald, Supervisor of Internal Revenue for Arkansas and the Indian Territory, Commissioner Delano has promulgated regulations extending the Internal Revenue laws over the Indian Territory as contemplated by sections 103 and 107 of the act of

The Mexican Claims Commission. The following has been made public by the United

States and Mexican Claims Commission:-Every claimant purporting to be a citizen of either country, party to this convention, shall disclose the facts upon which he bases his citizenship, either in his memorial or by affidavit. If a native he shall, so his memorial or by affidavit. If a native he shall, so far as in his power, disclose the time and place of his birth; if naturalized, he shall file a copy of his naturalization papers in all cases when it is in his power, and if not in his power to do so he shall show why. The affidavit above required may be put in at any time before a hearing, on such terms as may be deemed proper. Order of January 21, 1870.

Indian Treaties Withdrawn. The President sent a message to the Senate to-day, withrawing the Osage and Nebraska treaties communicated last session, and recommending the confirmation of the Miami, Shawnee, Kiokapoo and Sac

and Fox treaties.

The Duty on Steel and Iron to be Increased. The Committee on Ways and Means to-day raised the duty on manufactured steel three and a quarter per cent. There is a disposition to make a general

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

SENATE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1870.

CREDENTIALS OF SENATOR MORRILL. Mr. Hamlin, (rep.) of Me., presented the creden-tials of his colleague, Lot M. Morrill, elected by the Legislature of Maine for the unexpired term of the late Mr. Fessenden, the vacancy having been previously filled by an appointment of the Governor. The credentials were read and the usual oath of office administered to Mr. Morrill by the Chair.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION. Mr. STEWART, (rep.) of Nev., said ne desired to statement by Mr. Sumner in the discussion between that Senator and Mr. Trumbul on Friday last.

Mr. Sumner, (rep.) of Mass., said if the request was granted he would ask to reply at once, at length, and would go into the whole history of the question, upon which remarks would be made requiring at least an hour of time.

The order of business being called for the request of Mr. Stewart was not granted.

THE GEORGIA MILITARY COMMISSION.

Mr. NORTON, (dem.) of Minn., ofered a resolution directing the Judiciary Commission.

The order of business being called for the request of Mr. Stewart was not granted.

THE GEORGIA MILITARY COMMISSION.

Mr. NORTON, (dem.) of Minn., ofered a resolution directing the Judicary Committee to report to the Senate as soon as practicable by what authority. It any, General Terry has organized and convened a military commission to inquire into the eligibility of Senators and Representatives elected to the Legislature of Georgia, and their right to hold seats in that body, and for the purpose of facilitating such inquiries the President of the United States and the secretary of War be and are hereby requested to communicate to the Senate copies of all orders which they have issued and the correspondence with General Terry or the Governor of Georgia, and generally all information they may have with reference to the action of such Military Commission.

Mr. SUNNER objected to the present consideration of the resolution, when it was laid over.

PENSION TO THE WIDOW OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

Mr. WILSON, (rep.) of Mass., offered for reference the joint resolution of granting a pension to the widow of the late President Lincoln.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

SPEECH OF Mr. SHERMAN ON THE NATIONAL CURRENCY BILL.

On motion of Mr. SHERMAN, (rep.) of Ohio, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill to provide a national currency of coin and noises and to equalize the distribution and circulation of the Finance Com-

read.

Mr. Sherman, chairman of the Finance Committee, said he did not propose to enter into an elaborate financial argument in opening the debate on the bill, but would confine himself to two main on the bill, but would confine himself to two main Mr. Sherman, chairman of the Finance Committee, said he did not propose to enter into an claborate financial argument in opening the debate on the bill, but would confine himself to two main propositions. It presented, first, the partial equalization of distribution of the banking currency among the States; second, free banking on a conbasts. The present distribution of bank circulation was grossly and palpably unitar. Those States—Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut—containing population less than two militions, nave over ninety-six milition doils a circulation. One-different of our population have thus one-third of all the bank circulation. The rapidly growing Western States, where credit is most needed, have scarcely three doilars to an inhabitant, white all the late rebei States are practicully without any banking circulation. This unitar distribution, he said, grew out of a paipable violation of the law by the then Comproler of the Currency and the Secretary of the Treasury. The first Banking act, February 28, 1803, provided a rule of distribution by which the whole amount of circulation was not to exceed three hundred and fifty millions of while was to be apportioned among the States according to the population, and the other hundred and fifty millions according to the banking system without limit. The growing inequality of the distribution becoming apparent, Congress, by act of March 3, 1865, restored the old rule of distribution. At that time there were, less than one mindred and fifty millions of banking circulation, and if this law had been observed each State would have had reserved for it not less than five dollars for each inhabitant. This law was flagrantian objects and the state of the law the remaining circulation, and if this law had been observed each State would have had reserved for it not less than five dollars for each inhabitant. This law was flagrantian object of the law the remaining circulation was not increasing, excluding all the rapidly growing States of the edition. This en

the one to be remedied. To avoid this the Committee on Finance made the following suggestion to the President and Secretary of the Treasury, proposing to increase the limit of bank circulation forty-five millions, the circulation to be distributed to the Southern and Western States, which was the proposition of this bill. The first objection was that this was an expansion of the currency, to which the committee was opposed, and Mr. Sherman said in no event during suspension of specie payments would be favor a proposition to increase the banking circulation without reducing the currency two measures had been proposed—first, the withdrawal of the greenbacks; but this plan would not receive the sanction of the House. The other plan was the one allopted by the Senate committee—the withdrawal of the free per cent certificates, which were substituted for the compound interest notes, and were a temporary expedient to avoid an increase of the bonded debt. They were the least objectionable; being payable on demand they might be presented to the Treasury when most inconvenient. They draw interest and are mainly held in the Eastern banks where the circlication is in excess. By their payment the United States saves three per cent increase or the proposed to withdraw these certificates as rapidly as new banks are organized, and thus leave the currency without either expansion or contraction. The remaining to be organized. The committee then proposed to withirtaw these certificates as rapidly as new banks are organized, and thus leave the currency without either expansion or contraction. The remaining propositions of the bill authorized, he said, free banking or coin notes. This was an imagination of a true system of banking, embracing associate security to the note-holder and the United Stafes. The agency of private corporations as oanks to give flexibility to currency and to meet the end and how of exchanges, its redemption on demand in gold coin and freedom from monopoly or restrictions, except such as are necessary to protect its deductions and creditors. The banks to be authorized will be organized only on the Pacific coast, or in New York and the South, where large transactions are based upon gold values. He further answered the possible objections to the proposition. The bill would be followed in due time by a bill for funding the public gebt and for the revision of the internal revenue tax and tariff.

Mr. Dayls, (dem.) of Ky., remarked that the chief

and tard.

Ar. Davis, (dem.) of Ky., remarked that the chef value of the gold notes was dependent upon the facility with which they were reneemed. To make them equal in value to gold their certain and prompt redemption must be secured when presented by the holder to the bank. In case the bank laided to make them equal to coin the government must be ready and able to step in and redeem the notes.

Mr. Sierman replied by reference to the fourth secuon of the bill requiring every national bank to keep on hand at least twenty-five-per cent of its cirsection of the bill requiring every national bank to keep on hand at least twenty-fleveper cent of its car-culation in gold or silver coin. Then, too, the law moder the present system was that it a note was presented to a bank and not paid the note-holder might at once present it to the government, which would redeem it within twenty days. The banks were bound to redeem their notes at a centre of re-demption, and the same generat principle that applied to circulating notes applied also to gold notes. HOUSE.
REMARKS OF MR. HOWE ON GOVERNMENT PINANCES.

notes.

REMARKS OF MR. HOWE ON GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

At the conclusion of Mr. Sherman's remarks, air.

Howe, (rep.) of Wis., delivered a lengthy argument in review of the various financial propositions when had been suggested. He said that if the country would be centent to be honest, without being particularly anxious to be smart, the difficulty to be encountered would be lessened. There might be some way out of our embartassments better than the right way, but if there was he would not attempt to point to ut, for he had not attempted to find it. Believing. as he did, that for nations, as for individuals, honesty was the best policy, his purpose would be to point out the course which he believed honesty to suggest. He advocated the proposition to allow legal tenders to be funded in six per cent bonds, redeemable at the pleasure of the government, conierring the privilege of funding to mose who will use the bonds as a basis for a new bank circulation, and giving the preference to those portions of the country which may from time to time be deficient in circulation. He complained that the government compelled the public creditor to carry its own overdue obligations and made mm no compensation for so doing, and the pending bill did not attempt to right the wrong. He complained that the amount of circulation was limited by an inflexible law, and this wrong the pending bill would perpetuate. The franchise of banking was a monopoly, arbitrarily and unjustly distributed among the few to the exclusion of the many; but the pending bill created a new monopoly, it also proposed to silence all complaints

ed by the men who are daily making con the future delivery of gold, white this bil would charter a great corporation to engage in tha very business. He would have a law which declares a gold gambler a criminal and consign him to the penitentiary for inc. but thus oil proposed to licenshim and set up his trade under the sanction of sacreday.

him and set up his trade under the sanction of sacred law.

Mr. Sumner believed the proposition to supply \$45,000,000 additional currency would not meet the present requirements. The proposition to provide national currency coin notes instituted a system of tree banking upon a special basis, which was impossible until we had specie payments. Besides, this would create a third currency in addition to that of greenbacks and gold notes. He intimated that he would propose an amendment in the nature of a substitute for the bill. The proposed amenament is a bill recently introduced and explained by film to provide the national currency coin notes and equalize the distribution of circulating notes.

Mr. Cole, (rep.) of Cal., gave notice he would offer an amendment to insert, in lieu of the former portion of the bill, the following:—That, in addition to the amount of United States notes interiore issued and now in circulation, the Secretary of the Treasur, is authorized to issue in exchange for United States interest bearing bonds, at their market value; \$45,000,000 of such notes for circulation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The Senate then went into executive session, and after about an hour's session, at twenty-five minutes past your, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1870.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED. By Mr. KELLOGG, (rep.) of Conn.-Resuming the and granted for a ratiroad from the Mississippi river, opposite the mouth of the Ohio, via Little Rock, to the Texas boundary, near Pulton, Ark., and regranting it to other parties engaging to build

By Mr. FERRISS, (rep.) of N. Y .- In relation to adtitional bounties. Also limiting the appointments

By Mr. MYERS, (rep.) of Pa .- Fixing the compen-By Mr. Myers, (rep.) of Pa.—Fixing the compensation of letter carriers at \$1,200 in all cities where the iree delivery system is in operation.

By Mr. Peters, (rep.) of Me.—To increase the salary of the United States Minister to China. Also to repeal the act of January. 22, 1807, provising for an additional session of Congress. Also for the improvement of the Penosecol river in Maine.

By Mr. Washburn, (rep.) of Wis.—To establish postal telegraph lines. He moved to refer it to a special committee of seven.

Mr. Fainsworth called for a division, and remarked that the matter was aiready before a standing committee—the Post Office Committee.

Mr. Terry, (rep.) of Mich., moved to refer the bill to the Post Office Committee. Negatived by 67 to 75. The bill was then referred without a division to a select committee of seven.

By Mr. Chavez, (rep.) of New Mexico.—To authorize the people of New Mexico to form a constitution and State government, preparatory to admission as a State; also for an assay office in New Mexico; also defining the normern coundaries of New Mexico.

THE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS. Mr. Burk, (dem.) of his, offered a resolution declaring that from the nature of its dunes the Committee on Elections was a justicial body, and that in deciding contested election cases the members thereof should act according to all the rules of law, without partiality or prejudice, as if under a special oata in each case.

The previous question was seconded by a vote of 73 to 33.

33. Mr. Kelsex, (rep.) of N. Y., moved to lay the resolution on the table, stating that it cast an imputation on the Committee of Elections.

Mr. Garriello, (rep.) of Onio, suggested an amendment, extending the same principle to all members of the House in voting in the contested election cases.

The resolution was not laid on the table—yeas 44. nays—130 and it was then adopted by a vot 135, to nays 25.

nays—130 and it was then adopted by a vote of yeas 133, to nays 23.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Mr. CALKIN, (dem.) of N. Y., presented a petition from 3,000 merchants, mechanics and artisans of New York city against allowing American registers to foreign built supps and in favor of a reduction of existing taxes on shipbunding and commerce.

A large number of petitions for the abolition of the franking privilege were presented by Messirs, Knapp, Keisey, Jones of Ky., ranner, Ketchain, Strong, Garrield and others.

Air. Mungan presented the petition of H. H. Bigelow and 154 other citizens of Worcester, Mass., for the repudiation of the national war debt.

The Legislative Appropriation Bill.

The Legislative Appropriations, reported the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill. It was ordered to be printed and made the special order for Wednesday next.

Mr. Dawes stated to the House the figures composing the bill, compared with the estimates, and that there were several legislative, executive and the bill rendered necessary in order to cut off abuses, and he moved to suspend the rules, so that an order should be made that the usual point of order cannot be made against those provisions in Committee of the Whole.

After considerable dissussion the motion was agreed to.

After considerable discussion the motion was agreed to.

He gave the following as the amount appropriated in the bill:—Senate compensation and mileage, \$425,000; officers, eierks and employes, \$97,468; contingent, \$134,750; House compensation and mileage, \$1,500,000; officers, eierks and employes, \$142,551; contangent, \$201,632; public printing, \$1,501,614; library of Congress, \$61,168; public buildings and grounds, \$40,554; Court of Claims, \$133,840; Executive proper, \$40,440; Department of State, \$167,300; Treasury and bureaus, salaries and contingent, \$2,400,820; expense of collecting internal Revenue, \$5,100,001; independent Treasury, \$297,000; Mint, branches and assay offices, \$562,700; Territorial governments, \$2.6,700; surveyor Generals and their clerks, \$161,400; interior Department and several bureaus, salaries and contingencles, After considerable discussion the motion was

rais and their clerks, \$163,400; interior Department, and several bureaus, salaries and contingencies, \$1,290,500; Army, \$508,600; Navy, \$154,830; Department of Agriculture, \$137,480; Fost Office, \$238,120; Attorney Generals of the Junted States, \$104,500; Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, \$19,600; District Attorneys, United States, \$18,600; District Judges, United States, \$18,600; District Judges, United States, \$18,500; District Marshais, United States, \$11,300—total, \$19,254,097.

The estimates, he said, for these various heads of expenditures had been cut down over \$2,500,000, in the following proportions:—Senate and House and miscentaneous, \$1,041,242; ponic primary, \$229,072; Interior, Post Office and Agriculture, \$356,219; and branches and assay offices, \$244,222; Independent Interior, Post Odice and Agricusture, \$35a,210; Aunthrances and assay offices, \$244,123; Independent Treasury, \$292,547; Territorial governments, \$41,306; army offices, salaries and contingent, \$5,6,210; navy offices, salaries and contingent, \$51,500; Surveyor General and clerks, \$10,500; Irreasury and contingent, \$450,500; Little \$4,000,400; treasury and contingent, \$40,000, Little \$4,000,400.

offices, sharies and contingent, \$81,200; Surveyor General and clerks, \$10,500; Freasury and contingent, \$42,950—total, \$4,902,443.

The General structure commission.

The House then proceeded to the business on the Speaker's table, as 10 lows:—
Reply of the General of the Army to the call for information on Mr. Brooks' resolution as to the authority for certain military officers acting as a committee of elections in the Georgia Legislature, stating that they are not acting as such committee, but as a board outside of the Legislature to assist General Terry in the execusion of his most unpleasant office and duly, imposed on aim by act of Compress.

Mr. Brooks (dem.) of N. Y., addressed the House on the subject, comeding that the military authorities had no power whatever to interfere with the organization of the Legislature of the State of Georgia. It was an entire assumption on the part of General Terry and hissobordinates and was utterly lawless. Governor Bullock had introduced a railroad master, who had not been elected to any Legislative office, to preside over the Legislature. He hoped he was not mishiformed in being told that General Sherman and General Grain were about sending a special messenger to Georgia to correct those flegal proceedings. sending a special messenger to Georgia to correct those flegal proceedings. Mr. MORGAN, (dem.) of Ohio, protested against

these accumulated acts of usurpation, not only on the part of Congress, but on the part of the Execu-

Mr. BUTLER, (rep.) of Mass., defended the Execu-

Mr. Butler, (rep.) of Mass., defended the Executive and General Terry. He said that General Terry had only done what General Meade had done on the first organization of the Georgia Legellature—undertaken to determine what members were eligible. That was authorized by ail the reconstruction gets. Mr. Brooks asked Mr. Butler to point to the acts giving such authority.

Mr. Butler said he was ready to give all that information on the principle of the carpenter testifying in court, who was asked how far he was from the place where the incident occurred, and answered that he was four feet two and a half inches from it, and, being asked how he knew that so accurately, replied that he thought some fellow would be fool enough to ask him that question and he measured it. (Laughter.) He referred to section it of the act of July 19, 1867, giving authority to the General of the Army to act in this reconstruction matter. He enough to ask him that question and he measur it. (Laughter.) He referred to section 11 of the a of July 19, 1867, giving authority to the General the Army to act in this reconstruction matter. knew that there had come up a report from the Ass clated Press of the South—which never reported favor of loyalty, but always in favor of secession a navor of loyatty, but always in favor of secession and recelling and he noped to see that monopoly put down;—that General Terry had organized a military commission to try a member of the Georgi a Legislature for perjury; but that was not so. He had only appointed a board of government officers to find out who were and who were not eligible. Had stake where the fact where the second procession and the seco

to find out who were and who were not eligible. Its spoke whereof he knew when he affirmed that the action of General Terry has been and would be sustained by the administration, and that Georgia would be reconstructed in the interest of loyalty.

After further discussion between Messrs, Butler, Morgan, Voornees and others the papers were referred to the Committee on Reconstruction.

THE VIRGINIA BILL.

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to buss over all intervening business on the Speaker's table in order to take up the Virginia bill, with the Senate amendments.

Mr. Eddinger, gleening of Wis, inquired whether any opportunity for debate was to be given; but Mr. Farnsworth declined to make any promise on the subject.

subject.

The motion was agreed to, the democrats voting in the negative.

The bill was then taken up and the Senate substitute was read.

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to concur in the Senate

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to concar in the Senate substitute. Not, however, because if its provisions were presented originally he would have supported them. Some of them he thought very bunglingly drawn, and they would do more harm than good, but he made the motion because he thought that to throw the question open again to a soa of discussion and to keep Virginia longer out of representation would be a greater evit timn to adopt the Senate bill.

Mr. Cox (dem.), of N. N., asked whether the pas-

tage of the Senate bill would not be yielding up the position of the House without even the chance of a committee of conference? ce? blied that that was a question

Mr. Fanswoorsh replied that that was a question for the House.

Mr. Bingham said that it would be borne on the journal of the House that more than three to one of the members had declared for the admission of Virginia without conditions. That vote would commend itself to the approval of the country. He had no apology to make here or elsewhere for the position which he had assumed and which he now reiterated, that it was not in the power of Congress, by exacting fundamental conditions in the admission of a State, to enforce what could not be legitimately enforced on all other States. That being so, he asked that the State of Virginia be admitted under the Senate bill. He enlogized the constitution of Virginia as being more liberal than the constitution of any State west of the Alleghanies. If he thought that under this bill Virginia could be subjected to conditions which might not be imposed on New York or Ohio, he never would vote for the bill.

Mr. Cox surgested that the Senate bill was as obnoxious as the bill reported by the Reconstruction Committee, and which was yoted down by the House.

Mr. Bingham replied that it was not quite so obnoxious. He hoped the House would concur in the Senate amendment. His chief purpose was to state to the gentlemen on his own side of the House —

Mr. Bingham (indignantly)—The gentleman is very wise—wise beyond his years, He cannot read inc out of the party with which I am associated, nor can be blot out my record. Vulgarity is not wit, assumption is not power. There was no occasion for the inquiry.

A wis a feather and a fool's a rod.

An bonest man is the noblest work of God.

A wit's a feather and a foot's a rod. An honest man is the noblest work of God. (Laughter and much excitement on the floor.) Ar. BUTLER took the floor, and the interest in the (Laughter and much excitoment on the floor.)

Ar. Better took the floor, and the interest in the discussion seemed to be on the increase. He said that he would begin where the gentleman from Ohio had left oir—not with a misquotation, but simply to say that he had never threatened to read the gentleman out of the republican party. Nobody could do that but himself. Whether he had done that in passing the Virginia bill through the House by a snap judgment and with the aid of init democratic allies the country would judge. Whether the gentleman was to have an ovation when he went to Virginia he did not know, but he had seen some hint of that kind in the papers. He should be present in spirit, where he could look on, and not embodied, and see the Virginians toasting the man whom all their papers announced as the murderer of Mrs. Syrrati. (Excitement.) What a sight! "The lion and"—no; not "the lamb," but another animal. (Laughter.) Mr. Butter referred to the eulogy passed by the gentleman from Omo on the Virginia constitution and said that it was not the work of Virginian statesmen, but of "carpet-baggers" and scalageways and negroes from the fleids. He regarded the conditions in the bill as a noise, to Virginia and all that that the spirit of the reconstruction acts, Congress held and claimed, and write the help of God

and negroes from the fields. He regarded the conditions in the bill as a notice to virginia and all the country that if she did not maintain in spirit and in truth the spirit of the reconstruction acts, Congress held and claimed, and with the help of God and of the loyal people of the country, would exercise the power to place her back again where she had been. He did not know what new light the gondeman from Onlo had got which induced him to support the Senate bill, which was substantially the bill reported by the Reconstruction Committee.

Mr. FARNSWORTH said he understood very well the almsions made by Mr. Butier to the acting chairman of the Reconstruction Committee, and he had a word to say on that subject. He would not allow himself to be instructed in republicanism by the gentleman from Massachusetts. He had been a republican for twenty-five years, when the gentleman from Massachusetts was chasing fugitive slaves all over the State. (Laughter and clapping of hands on the democratic side.) He had been donig all he could at the Chicago Convention for the nomination of a republican party in 1860, when the gentleman from Massachusetts was at the Charleston Convention voting for Jeff Davis. (Laughter) He had voted for the republican party in 1860, when the gentleman from Massachusetts was voting for Breckinding, of Kentucky. He knew that the gentleman, with his facility for getting 'on the other side' when his allies deserted him went over; and ne knew his convention and convention was so sudden that it shanned that of St. Paul. (Langhter.) The lighting that blazed around nim—that focal blaze that haminated his understanding—shanned mit darkness the light that shone around St. Paul; but he knew that the gentleman was somewhat like Peter when he deserted mis master. His desertion was so recent that ne was obliged to curse and swear to make people believe that his convertion was genume—Laughter)—so the exceedingly radical in order to make people believe that his conversion was genume—Laughter). He understood th

understood that the gentleman's attack was on the gentleman from Ohio (sir. Bingman;) but he would probably have named him, too, only he knew that he (Mr. Farnsworth) had a chance to reply.

Mr. Butlen said that his reason was that he had held the floor by that gentleman's courtesy, and increfore did not think it well to arraign him at that time for his sins. (Laughter).

Mr. Farnsworth, continuing his remarks, reminded the House that Mr. Butler had opposed him every time that he tried to hatroduce a bill for the admission of Virginia, and has stated the last time, two days before the recess, that the committee wanted testimony.

Mr. BULLER remarked that the evidence he then wanted was as to the ranneation of the fifteenth amendment.

wanted was as to the ranneation of the fifteenth amendment.

Mr. Fainsworth said that that was most remarkable, because three days before that the Secretary of State had notified Congress that Virginia had ratified the fifteenth amendment. (Laughter.) It was the gentieman from Massachusetts who had barred the door against Virginia—would bar it to-day but that he knew it to be inevitable that the bili would pass. In conclusion he said that it he thought the House would non-concur and refer the matter to a committee of conference he would vote to non-concur, but as he was satisfied that the House would not he would vote to concur.

Mr. Ward. (rep.) of N. Y., said he would support the Senate bill, as he understood it to contain all the essential fundamental conditions that were contained in the bill as reported from the Reconstruction Committee.

Mr. Moskan opposed the substitute, and said that

ion Committee.

Mr. Morgan opposed the substitute, and said that for its action towards Virginia the Forty-first Congress would be known in history as the perildious Congress.

Mr. Cox took the same ground, and asked the republicant adds whether they would due to state the

MF. Cox took the same ground, and asked the republican side whether they would dare to stamp the brand of inferiority on New York or Ohlo that this bill stamped on Virginia; whether they would dare to interfere with the common sensor system or the jury system of New York or Ohlo.

MF. LOGAN, (rep.) of Ill., said he was one of those who had voted for the admission of Virginia free of conditions and would do so again under similar cremissances, but he would now vote for the substitute. He would not inquire who it was that had been working in the lobbles of the Senate to have the bill sent back to the House, so that some gentleman might have an opportunity of flageliating in language peculiar to himself his fellow members; nor would he eater into personalities. He had not minself been a republican so long as to allow the moss to grow over him, and therefore he did not propose to canvass anybody's action; but neither would he allow any other person to be a censor over him. He did not see any incon-

action; but neither would be allow any other person to be a censor over him. He did not see any income sistency in voting now for this bill on the very statement of the gentleman from Massachusetts himself that the conditions imposed were a mere notice to Virginia that she had better behave nerself.

Messis, Firch, (rep.) of Nev., and Kirlood, who had originally supported Mr. Bingham's bill, announced their intention, without approving of the Senate bill, to vote for it.

Mr. Shanks, (rep.) of ind., sareastically, invited all the penitents to come up at once and make confession. (Laughter.)

Mr. Farusworth's motion was agreed to and the Senate substitute concurred in by a strict party vote—yeas 136, mays 57.

yeas 136, mays 57.

An effort was made to have an evening session for depate, but it failed, and the House, at five o'clock, adjourned.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT. Decisions Rendered in Important Cases tracts Prior to 1861 to be Met in Gold-Illegulity of the Acts of the Confederate States

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1870.

Government.

In the Supreme Court to-day the case of J. C. Wilard vs. B. O. Taylor, argued at the term of 1867, was decided. In 1865 Willard leased what was formerty known in the city of Washington as "The Mansion House," for ten years, with the option of purchasing, at a fixed sum, any time within that term. Afterwards he transferred to his brother onehalf of the interest in the lease and privilege. A few days before the expiration of the term J. C. Willard, without inviting his brother interested with him, gave Taylor notice of his determination to purchase and fendered in Treasury notes the first instalment of the purchase money agreed upon. Taylor decimed the tender, claiming that only gold was contemplated by the contract. Thereupon J. C. Willard, without joining his brother, commenced an action in the courts of the Distinct to compel a specific performance of the contract. Technical dofences were set up, such as the non-joinder of the interested brother, &c., and on the merits, that of the misualciency of the tender in greenbacks. The court below sustained this detectes and dismissed the bill. Mr. Justice Field, disbelieving the opinion, this court how reverset that judgment and directed a specific performance of the contract, upon the complationable paying the agreed sums in gold, the court holding that to decree specific performance in this case, upon the theory that the contract could be discharged in Treasury notes, would be a manifest hardsing, and that a court of equity may reliase to compaispecific performance where it would work hardsing. The Court declares that it is not the intention, of this opinion to determine upon the constitutionality of the Legal Tender act in respect to contracts made prior to its passage, remarking that that question is directly presented in and will be discount declares. templated by the contract. Thereupon J. C. Wilopinion to its passage, remarking that that question is prior to its passage, remarking that that question is directly presented in and will be disposed of by decisions in other cases now pending; nor is it at all necessary that it should do So, for all the questions may be determined upon other grounds. In a case like the present, where the option of purchase was of sun' long standing and the increase of the property had been so great, the Court would not compel a specific nerformance without at least requiring payment to be made in the currency of the country at the date of the contract. As to the question of non-joinder, it was not it is supposed that he has gone to Cansie.

desmed essential that the assignee of the molety in the property should be joined as a party plaintiff.

No. 75. Hickman se. Bette et al.—Appeal from the District Court for the Northern District of Alaborate.—Hickman brought his action for damages acaust the defendants, who were officers of court and grand jurors under the Confederate States government, and who had indicted him for treason sgaluss that authority and caused his arrest. The vertict below was for the defendants under the instructions of the court, that any authority emanating from the Confederate government, which, had it been established, would have projected the defendant, was a sufficient defence. This court, Mr. Justice Swayne delivering the opinion, now reversed that judgment, holding that the defendants acted without an hority and were hable for any damages resulting to the plaintiff, and that it is no justification to arge the power of the Confederate States.

No. 199. Hoventhall et al. vs. Keany, Collector, dv.—Appeal, From the Circuit Court for the District of Mississippi.—This action was brought to restrain the collection of an internal revenue tax on cotton, imposed by the acts of 1805 and 1807 and amendments of the general acts of 1805. The parties were all residents of Mississippi. The decision is that it is not a case for equity cognizance and that the bill muss be dismissed. Opinion by Mr. Justice Chiford.

ANOTHER TENEMENT HOUSE TRAGEDY

Calamilous Fire in Worth street-Three Persons Barned-One Dead, the Others in a Critical Condition.

Another sickening tenement house disaster took place last night, resulting in the loss of life of bne person, and the probable death of another.

About diteen minutes after eight o'clock the bells

sounded the alarm for "corner of Worth and West Broadway." The fire department of the district jutckly turned out and hurried to the scene of the fire. On arriving there it was found that the fire was in the two story and attic frame house No. 9 Worth street, occupied on the first floor by George Meyers, on the second floor by David Harris, shoemaker, and a widow nat Levy. The fire occurred in Harris' apartments, it is supposed from the stove or a kerosene lamp. miding and contents were of such a combustible, nature that the fire spread with surprising rapiditye.

presenct police, who established fire lines and assisted in preserving order and removing the effects of the occupants, the latter became pante stricken and rushed out police endeavored to calm them, but to no avail, and for some time the poor occupants continued to make their way up and down past, the firemen, who were galantly battling the dames.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the Croton and its manipulators, and after inflicting about \$500 camage to the property on the second floor, it reached the attle-

The artic was occupied by John J. Casey, wife and salid. First had been actively engaged in removing their effects when the fire crept up to their home.

The artic was occupied by John J. Caser, wife and colid. They had been actively engagaed in removing their effects when the fire crept up to their home. Notwithstanding the remonstrances of the firemen, it is said they persisted in getting out their property and tell victims to their rasiness. Casey was horribly barned, as was also his wile Johanna and his son James. Some of the firemen of No. 27 Engine Company eventually determined to rescue them and dragged them out by main force.

The victims of the fire were conveyed to the Fifth precinct station house and cared for. The boy James was frightfully barned, much of his flesh having been crisped and baked. He died in the station house while waiting for the arrival of the Bellevier Hospital ambulance. The father's injuries were of a serious, but not fatal character, and he will recover. Mrs. Casey was badly barned about the head and face, and may possibly recover. She was sent to Bellevier Hospital for treatment.

The loss on building and contents will be about one thousand dollars. The name of the owner could not be accretioned, nor the names of the firemen was rescued the Casey family. Harris disappeared during the fire and could not be found. It is not known whether or not he is maured.

THE POLICE

known whether or not he is manrea.

THE POLICE

of the district made no report of the details of the
fire, excepting as regards the condition of the
wounded, up to twenty minutes to cieven P. M.
Persons who were present do not speak in very complaneatry terms of their efficiency and energy, and
it may be a fit subject for an investigation before
the Commissioners, should Captain Petty feet
prompted to fix the responsibility of this loss of
life on any particular member or members of his
command. The following is the despatch from the
precince:—

A nee broke out in a two story frame building occupied by David Hirris, No. 9 Worth street; cause, unknown; owned by Whiteberger. Insurance and damage unknown. House occupied by eggl families; furnium not faured.

THE NEWS FROM CHINA-WHAT IS THE MATTER? New York Jan 24 1870.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-By the arrival at san Francisco of the mail steamsam America from Japan we have the usual batch of news from China. Will you be kind enough to inform the readers of the HERALD why it is that since Mr. Burlingame left China upon his treaty from that quarter of the globe but a tissue of misrepresentations about the Chinese government in general and the Burlingame treaties in particular? It is true that the present arrival brings Mr. J. Leary Brown, First Secretary to the Burlingame mission, with the treaty Washington ratified; so that any additional Washington ratings, that instrument wound be absured. But the subject of complaint and lassenood now is the revised Chinese treaty was freat Eritam. The telegraph informs us that "no one is satisfied with it except the Chinese," &c. This is intended for the firsts market and certain specialistics there who are in collasson with the Erreian merchants at who are in collasson with the Erreian merchants at such nonsense that the British government has de-blerately under a treaty with clona that "no one is satisfied with except the Chinese?" quere, did that news come all the way from the Hong Kong traders, or is it really the enshow of the artish mer-chanis' manipulator, J. Ross Browne, in San Fran-

chanis' mampulator, J. Ross Browne, in San Francisco?

The same despatch announces that Sir Rutherford Alcock "weat to Naukin to demand subspatchon for outrages committed on the missionaries" A.c., and that "the local government of lant province answeres are demand with nothing but empty promises," a.c. Sir Rutherford Alcock will learn in time that when he wants to obtain a redress of grievances from a national government ac ought to appeal to the central Power, and not make demandation that becal authorities of a province. What would be thought of the conduct of Mr. Thornton, the Irlian simister, if he should demand satisfaction of the Governor of New 10th for outrages committed in this State upon any class of subjects of Great Britain? Every one knows that he would be laughed at by our people and recalled by his own catted in this State upon any class of subjects of Great Fritain? Every one knows that he would be laurened at by our people and recailed by his own government. The Eritish official to claim makes no complaint to the Emperor at Pekin, out ignoring that central government at the dictation of the Hong Kong merckants, whose poucy it is to do so goes to hankin and attempts to freghen the government and people of that province with his arrogant demands, and was "radely received by the official and nooted at by the people in the streets." While the telegraph has undoubtedly stated the case against the Chineses as strongly as the lacts will warrant, there is little doubt that Sir Rutherford received his just dues. When the new treaty between oreal Britain and China is enforced British officials will learn to follow in supulations instead of being guided by a set of British speculators in the several provinces of the Cameso empire. When small we have the truit with the Japan steamer and San Francisco Associated Fress agenty. Will the Harand inform a constant reader and subscriber?

LYCEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

A Wonderful Salt Mine-Germany a Potash Market for the World-Professor Hitchcack's Observatory on the White Mountains-The Mississippi Delta.

A regular meeting of the Lyceum of Natural His tory was neld last night at the Mott Memorial Building, Madison avenue, Professor Newberry in the chair. After the receipt of several contributions to

the library and museum Processor Joy gave a most interesting account of some wonderfut sait mines at Stassfurth, Germany. They were bored for in 1839, and in 1851, when a depth of intercent hundred feet had been reached, the only result was obtaining a brine of high specific gravity, which on being analyzed nearly condemned the enterprise. Professor Marchand, however, advised the government to sink shatts, when a vein of rock salt uses feet thick was discovfluor spar and soutan produces magnesium at a low rate. Potses is now ceting manufactured there in quantities sufficient to supply the whole world. Professor Hirchcock. State Geologist of New Hampshire, then gave a concise account of an of servatory he had erected on one of the peaks of

Professor Edwards next volunteered some highly matructive remarks on the Mississippi delta, after which the meeting adjourned.